ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NO. 17

May 13, 1943

TO THE DIVISION AND SECTION CHIEFS OF FBIS:

By agreement of the Administrative Board of the Commission it is necessary for us to incur no additions to our current budget until the end of the fiscal year. This means that no proposals for promotions and increases in salary for members of our staff can be recommended. It is hoped that this tight situation will be terminated before the end of the fiscal year.

Our actual financial situation is as follows:

When the 48-hour Overtime Pay Act was passed it required each agency to pay the excess salaries from its current budget. This means that, although up to the time the Act was passed we had a comfortable estimated surplus for the year, we suddenly had to add an estimated \$116,000 to cur expenditures with no additional income to meet it. More than half of this increased expenditure we have absorbed. Obvicusly, however, we could not absorb it all without destroying our service. Our present estimate is that if no funds are given us to meet the Overtime Pay Act, we will finish the year with a \$52,000 deficit.

There is now in Congress a Bill recommended by the Budget Bureau which would appropriate money to agencies such as curs to help pay for the Overtime Pay Act. If this Act passes, we will receive a sum in excess of \$50,000 and cur budget will balance. But with the uncertainties of Congressional action, we just cannot count on this money. We are obliged, therefore, not to incur a cent of additional expenditure, and to go along on our present maintenance cost.

This is obviously a difficult thing for us to do, but I am obliged to make the ruling that we incur no additional personnel costs. If we do not end the year with a balanced budget, the Commission would violate one of the Statutes of the United States with consequent liability of criminal action.

/s/ Robert D. Leigh

Robert D. Leigh Director Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service